



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

# Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

Wayne F. MacCallum, *Director*

## APPLICATION FOR PROBLEM ANIMAL CONTROL

Problem Animal Control Agents are private individuals who are licensed by the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife to assist the public in situations involving sick animals or species causing property damage for 16 species of mammals, two species of birds, and one species of turtle. PAC agents are authorized to handle only the following animals: striped skunk, muskrat, raccoon, weasel, red and grey fox, porcupine, rats, mice, voles\*, red, grey or flying squirrels, opossum, chipmunk, European rabbit, cottontail rabbit, woodchuck, snapping turtle, pigeon, house sparrow, starling and bat\*.

Problem Animal Control applicants must pass a written examination in biology, handling, capture techniques, animal welfare, disease and parasites, status and regulations and other appropriate subject matter before being granted a permit. Examination questions will be based on , but not limited to, materials in the Problem Animal Control Handbook. Applicants wishing to obtain a handbook should attach a check made out to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the amount of \$15.00. Applicants who fail this exam may retake the exam after two a two month period.

\*Certain species of bats and voles are not covered under this authorization.

**IMPORTANT: IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, PROBLEM ANIMAL CONTROL APPLICANTS MUST:**

1. Obtain a valid trapping license.
  - available at any city and town hall, at Division installations in Boston, Westboro, Pittsfield, Buzzards Bay, West Boylston, and Acton and at other locations (certain sporting good stores, etc.). Trapping licenses must be carried with you while trapping.
2. Complete a mandatory trapper education class
  - prerequisite for obtaining Trap Registration Certificate
  - call Hunter Education at (508) 632-7648 for class information.

**PROBLEM ANIMAL CONTROL AGENTS ARGENTS ARE EXPECTED TO:**

1. Recertify: Permittees are required to attend a Division PAC workshop or other approved equivalent, once every three years from the time of successful completion of the first examination.
2. Submit annual reports: Licenses are valid from January 1 to December 31. PAC agents receive a repor

[www.masswildlife.org](http://www.masswildlife.org)

Division of Fisheries and Wildlife

Field Headquarters, One Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581 (508) 389-6300 Fax (508) 389-7890

*An Agency of the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife & Environmental Law Enforcement*